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75¢

December 18 - 23, 2003

Possible park may replace existing landfill

Ashley Lawrence
Staff Writer

city, said Romulus could receive a grant to transform the site into a public park.

capping the site.

"We want to use this money to correct the health and safety issue and specifically cap the site," said Keyes.

There is half a million cubic yards of soil on the site, dumped there during the creation of the fourth runway at the airport, he said.

Keyes said the intent of the city is to use that dirt for a cap and then use the existing golf course drawings. The dirt would be pushed only to where the existing landfill is today.

"We would go in and clear the trees where the landfill area is," said Keyes. "We will almost build a golf course - type park area. At a minimum we will cap the landfill, have a methane gas ventilation system and have open green space, all with the State of Michigan's money."

See **Landfill**, page 3

"We want to use this money to correct the health and safety issue and specifically the cap site."

Tim Keyes

"We are one of the few communities - if not the only community - that is allowed to get this money directly, but part of that came with a bunch of ties," said Keyes. "So, we have been negotiating with the state."

Romulus would receive a \$1.8 million grant from the state to turn the site into an open-space public park by

Plans for a new park were presented to the Romulus City Council at a study session last week, but there may be a catch.

The 260-acre site of the proposed park is just north of Wick Elementary School and sits on top of a landfill. About 15 years ago giant drums containing hazardous waste were stored at this site, said city officials. However, since that time the drums have been removed and the site has been vacant.

A previous plan would have transformed the site into a golf course. That construction never occurred, despite the expense the city incurred for professionally prepared plans.

Tim Keyes, the economic development director for the



Goodwill to all

Members of the Romulus Middle School leadership group, above, have collected dozens of coats to donate to needy families during this holiday season. Students at the middle school have also been putting together family assistance baskets, right, with food they have received during their annual canned food drive. The baskets will be distributed to those less fortunate in the Romulus community.



Presidential hopeful visits local church

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

Well-known minister and presidential candidate the Rev. Al Sharpton captivated a small crowd of area residents Saturday when they gathered to hear him speak from the pulpit of the New Birth Baptist Church after a prayer breakfast last Saturday.

The crowd listened as Sharpton spoke on varied topics including racial equality, the war in Iraq, the state of the economy and lifting up the African-American community.

The Inkster Ministerial Alliance and the Rev. Horace L. Sheffield, a Detroit minister and the president of the Michigan chapter of Sharpton's advocacy group, the National Action Network, organized Sharpton's appearance.

During his speech, Sharpton occasionally broke into song. He was adamant, he told the audience, about his opposition to the war in Iraq.

"Right now, there are so many things going on that are negative," he said. "Because of George W. Bush, we're in a war that we have

no idea how we got into. We're going to have to pay to educate and rebuild Iraq, but we can't do those things for ourselves."

Sharpton is vying for the Democratic presidential nomination against eight other candidates. He bristled at the notion that he doesn't have a chance to win.

"I'm not the only one that's going to lose, there are eight people that are going to lose," he said. "When I walk out onto that stage (with the other eight contenders), there is no way that they can ignore affirmative action, no way that they can ignore the issues that are going to help us build the walls back up in our community."

By walls, Sharpton was referring to what he feels needs to be done to create a social structure that will help young African Americans succeed. He said the media and the entertainment industry are responsible for perpetuating negative stereotypes.

"When I was young, Aretha (Franklin) used to sing about respect. But now it's different. We have more African American men

See **Sharpton**, page 3

GM Powertrain donates bikes, toys

Ashley Lawrence
Staff Writer

Marine Corps Toys for Tots campaign.

Christmas."

The event, as it is today, began six years ago at the hands of Marek. At that time GM donated to Toys for Tots, but Marek said there wasn't very much interest at the plant to help the cause. So, Marek took it upon himself to start collecting donations for the campaign.

"I wanted to do something to help and I figured getting something started would be a way to

See **Toys For Tots**, page 3

Christmas is going to be a little bit sweeter for hundreds of children who will be receiving presents this year thanks to the General Motors Powertrain Engine Plant in Romulus.

The plant, along with local businesses, GM suppliers and dealerships joined forces to donate 335 bicycles, four motorized vehicles, hundreds of toys and cash donations to the U.S.

The Western Wayne division of the Toys for Tots campaign, which includes Romulus, Belleville, Inkster, Westland and Garden City, will distribute the bikes and toys to needy children in those specific cities.

"I was adopted and I know what it is like not to have a Christmas," said Mark Marek, co-coordinator of the event for UAW Local 163. "I wanted to make sure that other kids have a good



Employees at the GM Powertrain Engine plant in Romulus have collected more than \$43,000 that will be donated to the Western Wayne Toys for Tots campaign. From left, front row, are Michael Stone, Mark Marek and Theresa Endicott. In the back row are Patricia Fields, Carolyn Farabee, Marilyn Strong, Bernetta McGee, Rick O'Donnell and Azucena Frank.

Belleville seeks to join special operations consortium

Heather Connor
Staff Writer

When Sumpter Township police were faced with a barricaded gunman in the Holiday Woods Mobile Home Park Oct. 12, Chief Clinton Brown said he found himself without sufficient backup. Brown called many different law enforcement departments looking for a special operations team for help, but was told that his department was not a member of the Western Wayne Special Operations Team Consortium (WWSOTC), and the group would not send help unless there were shots fired or an officer-involved shooting occurred. Eventually, the Wayne County Sheriff Department SWAT Team agreed to assist, and the situation ended peacefully.

But Brown said he wants to take steps to ensure the department always gets the back up it needs.

Brown said he contacted Northville Township Police Chief John Werth, who currently serves as president of the WWSOTC, about membership in the group. He said he was advised to apply for membership and that a \$5,000 yearly membership fee would be charged to the township. The consortium also requires one officer from the department be a member of the team, Brown said.

"When you look at the importance of

having access to a special operations team in a critical incident and the added protection for the citizens of the township, it appears that the \$5,000 per year fee is not an outrageous fee to pay," Brown said in a letter to the Sumpter Township Board of Trustees.

"Sumpter cannot do this alone," Brown said. "We need this."

Werth said when the special operations team responds to non-member communities, the department is billed for each officer that responds to the scene. The recent incident in the mobile home park would have cost the township about \$3,600, Brown said.

The board approved the membership fee Dec. 9, but Sumpter Township Supervisor Toni Clark said she wanted more information about the consortium before making a decision.

"We need someone from the consortium to come in and explain this," Clark said. "We need to know what the training does and what it will do for our police department."

Township Treasurer John Morgan said Brown had already explained the program effectively.

"We would have no help if something were to happen tomorrow," Morgan said.

"If we get into an agreement (with WWSOTC) we would have the assistance required in a single phone call," agreed Trustee

Tim Rush.

The benefits of membership include better response time in critical incidents,

according to Brown. Members of the team from surrounding communities – including Canton, Northville and Plymouth townships, and the cities of Northville, Wayne and Plymouth – would respond to the scene. The chief of police in the area where an incident occurs would also have some input on how the incident is handled, he said.

Officers from each department train for two days each month and are required to respond when the team is called out, Brown said. Calls for assistance average between 12 and 15 per year, he said. The officer appointed to the team would still work a regular schedule for the township, with a similar commitment as K-9 officers, according to Brown.

"We need to know what the training does and what it will do for our police department."

Supervisor Toni Clark

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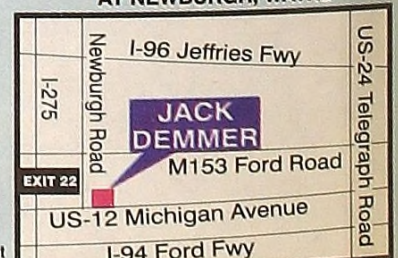
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Seniors receive blankets from Bible class

Ashley Lawrence
Staff Writer

Students from the Monday night Youth Bible Study Class at First Baptist Church in Romulus will help senior citizens stay warm this winter.

The students have spent the last two months making fleece blankets for 16 Romulus seniors who live alone and don't have a large family.

"We wanted to make something special for the seniors," said Norma Cofield, the Bible class teacher. "So, what keeps you warmer than blankets?"

In a ceremony Monday night at the Romulus Senior Citizens Center, seniors in attendance heard songs from the First Baptist Church Sunday School Choir, and were then presented the blankets.

"I think it is wonderful that there are still kids who want to do things like this for us," said Millie Campbell, a recipient. "A lot of kids today just don't care, but it is nice to know that there are still children who care about the seniors."

The project was about more than simply keeping the seniors warm this winter, said Cofield.

"Doing a project like this teaches kids a lot of important lessons," she said. "The most important one being that it is better to give than to receive. It also shows them responsibility and how to show love for the seniors, because one day they, too, will be senior citizens."

Other seniors at the event were also gracious and impressed that the students went to so much work.

"It is a very nice gesture," said Genora Shelby. "Something like this gives us a reason to get out for awhile around the holidays and it truly makes me very happy that they took all the time to do this."

The new relationship that the students now share with the seniors will not end here either, said Cofield.

"This is not a one-time thing," she said. "We have made a commitment to these seniors and we plan to keep in touch with them through out the year to let them know that we are thinking of them, not just at Christmas, but all year long."



Ellen Rounke, a Romulus senior citizen was chosen to be one of 16 seniors to receive handmade blankets from the First Baptist Church of Romulus Monday night Youth Bible Class and the Sunday School choir.



The Rev. Al Sharpton was whisked into the New Birth Baptist Church on Avondale Street Saturday morning for an hour-long public speaking engagement.

Sharpton

FROM PAGE 1

in jail than in college. We have to rebuild the walls of our community."

He also touted the importance of empowerment, saying: "If I knock you down this morning, then it's on me. But if I come back here next Saturday morning, and you're still down there, then it's on you."

Sharpton's appearance attracted about 100 people. Inkster Councilwoman DeArtriss Coleman-Richardson attended the event with her daughter but said she was disappointed with the unexpectedly low turnout.

"I think he really spoke to what a lot of us are concerned about," she said. "I do wish more people would have attended. I think every member of

(Inkster City) council should have been here. It's not every day that a presidential candidate comes to Inkster."

Other officials who attended the prayer breakfast included councilmen Ron Johnson and Marcus Hendricks and Charter Commissioner Terrel LeCesne. Several attendees made donations to Sharpton's campaign after his address.

The Rev. Joseph Stevens, the pastor of New Birth Baptist Church, said he was gratified to host Sharpton's appearance.

"We're just so pleased and honored that he's here," Stevens said.

Sharpton has sought public office before. In 1978, he made history as the first African-American to campaign for a New York State Senate seat. He also sought the 1997 Democratic nomination for the New York City mayoral election.

Toys For Tots

FROM PAGE 1

do that," he said. "We started off with nine bikes."

However, due to the efforts of Marek, GM Powertrain donated 101 bikes to Toys for Tots, along with thousands of dollars in toys.

"Watching everything happen that first year was amazing," said Steven Somers, plant manager. "It was overwhelming how people began to donate and volunteer to help the program."

The program has grown larger and larger with each Christmas. Each year the goal is increased from the year before, a goal the employees at the plant have helped make a reality.

"We have so many people that help out with this event

now," said Marek. "Everything from donating money, toys to volunteering to do fundraisers."

Plans for the event don't even begin until right after Thanksgiving, said Marek. In a four-week period, the plant is able to donate more than \$43,000 in bikes and toys to the campaign.

Marek and his co-coordinator, Mike Stone, and the afternoon shift coordinators, Mark Corrión and Evelyn Craig plan tons of fundraisers through out the short time period, as do many of the 50 volunteers of the program.

"There are people in this plant that offer to do anything that can to help," said Marek. "They plan fundraisers and do everything they can to make sure we can meet our goal."

Rick O'Donnell, the UAW Local 163 bargaining chairman

said he is impressed that a plant that employees 2,300 people can generate that much money.

"Our UAW members have an overwhelming compassion for this program," he said.

"Hundreds of our employees donate their time and money so that less fortunate children may have a decent holiday."

A helmet is donated by GM with every bike bought.

"We hope our continuing emphasis on safety through donating helmets with each bike will help kids develop good safety habits," said Somers. "It's heart warming to see people rally together for such a great cause. They do it all for the kids."

Toys R Us has also become a partner in the effort to raise money for the Toys for Tots campaign.

No abuse found in infant death

Romulus police said they don't know what caused the death of a Romulus infant this week.

The Romulus Fire and Police departments responded to the 911 call on Dec. 14 at a home on Cogswell Road. The baby's parents told responding officers that the infant wasn't breathing.

When they arrived on the scene, workers for the Health Link E.M.S. service pronounced the infant dead.

Investigators said they have learned that the mother put the

infant to bed at approximately 10 p.m. on Dec. 13. Four hours later, the father woke up for work and the mother went in to check on the infant. She told officers she found him not breathing.

She immediately began Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) on the infant and called for help.

The medical examiner ruled that there were no apparent signs of abuse. Investigators are awaiting toxicology reports in an attempt to determine the cause of death, said police officials.

Landfill

FROM PAGE 1

The methane gas ventilation system will consist of numerous 8-foot high poles placed around the site. The poles will be used to allow the methane gas on the site to escape into the atmosphere.

"Think of a circle with a ring of tubing around it, the circle being the landfill. There will be pipes running from the center like a spoke of a wheel rising up to stacks at a couple hundred foot intervals," said Neil Silver, legal counsel on environmental issues for the city. "So what it does is methane gas rises and it tries to find the spot of least resistance and it is going to find these tubes filled with pea stone. It will then collect into these tubes and be vented well above anyone's ambient air level."

Council members were concerned regarding the safety and cleanliness of the soil, which Keyes is proposing to use to fill

and cap the landfill.

"We have talked to the state about that and they are comfortable with the soil," said Keyes. "What you are dealing with is that hydrocarbons would only be on the top layer, if at all. The state at this time is not requiring any additional testing of the soil."

The state is requiring many different provisions within the agreement to ensure safety on the site.

The cap must be at least 18 inches thick in the affected areas of the site with a vegetative cover on top to prevent soil erosion. A 2,600 linear foot split-rail fence must be placed along the western boundary and a 700-foot linear 6-foot high chain link fence on the northern property boundary. On these fences, three types of warning signs must be posted throughout the site once it is completed.

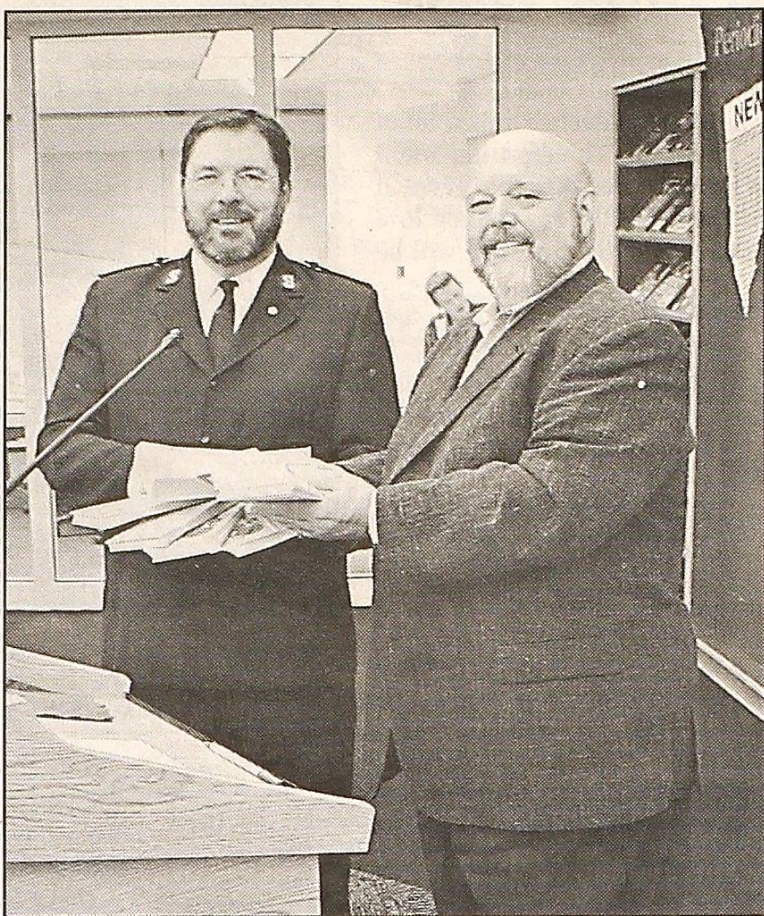
The project is still in the development stages and will require the approval of the city council before construction begins.



Employees from the GM Powertrain Engine plant in Romulus went on a shopping spree at the Westland Toys R Us yesterday. The team spent more than \$25,000 on toys for the Toys for Tots campaign.

Seasons greetings

Once again, this year, the Westland Community Foundation was able to provide donations of toys and food to the Salvation Army. During the annual foundation Christmas Party Dec. 11, guests brought more than 400 unwrapped toys to place beneath the Christmas tree, below at left. Entertainment was provided by the John Glenn High School singers, below, right. Guests were treated to holiday goodies prepared by the students at the William Ford Vocational-Technical Center. At right, foundation president and founder Glenn Shaw Jr. presents gift certificates for 250 turkeys to Cpt. Charles Yockey of the Salvation Army. The food and toys will be distributed during the holidays to families in the Wayne-Westland area.



Pickets protest use of non-union workers

Scott Spielman
Editor

A union demonstration at the site of the new police headquarters in Wayne last week won't slow the construction of the new facility, according to police officials.

Several picketers blocked the two entrances at the site, which is located at Howe Street and Michigan Avenue, because the firm installing the Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) units used non-union employees, according to Police Chief Mike Sumeracki.

"We took bids in the initial stages of building the building and the lowest bidder — which by charter we pretty much have to accept — used non-union," he said.

The picketers demonstrated peacefully for several days, often huddled against the inclement weather.

Sumeracki said city policy doesn't require the city to hire firms that only use union workers.

"The City of Wayne has a prevailing wage ordinance, but it does not mandate that we have to hire union people," he said. "The ordinance simply states that whatever the prevailing wage for that job is is what we have to pay."

Any contractors have to show the city proof that they pay the prevailing wage for that occupation."

He said the police didn't have any problem with the picketers, who made their point and moved on.

"It's just one of these things in our country: the people have the right to protest and we acknowledge that," Sumeracki said. "They're done with their protest."

Work on the 28,000-square foot structure will continue throughout the winter, he said. The facility has been buttoned down against the cold, and the windows should arrive this week, Sumeracki said.

"Our goal was to get it buttoned up before the extreme cold weather set in," he said.

The headquarters will be constructed on 441 acres of land at an estimated cost of \$7.2 million.

Currently the department, which includes more than 40 sworn officers along with civilian employees and dispatchers, operates from a 4,700-square foot structure on Sims Avenue, between the 29th District Court building and the senior center.

Sumeracki said it has long outlived its usefulness. The new headquarters is slated for completion in the spring of 2005.

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- Team teaching
- Career Pathways
- Technology-based learning
- Educational Devel. Plans
- State-competitive bands
- Advanced math
- Athletics
- Accelerated reading
- Foreign languages
- NCA accreditation

High School

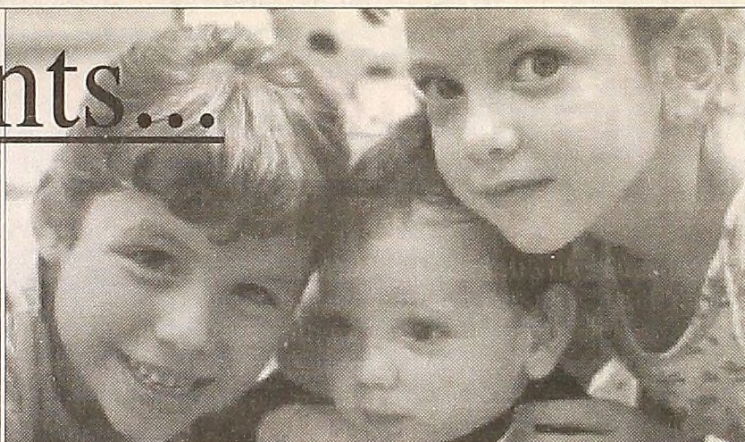
- Block scheduling
- Technology-based learning
- Comprehensive curriculum
- Advanced placement classes
- Foreign languages
- Science Olympiad
- Nat'l Robotic competition
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- Career Pathways

Career Center

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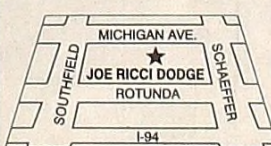
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Plymouth police arrest robbery suspect in act

Scott Spielman
Editor

The City of Plymouth and Plymouth Township police departments collaborated recently in an investigation that took off the streets a man suspected of breaking and entering into several businesses.

Det. Sgt. Bob Antal of the Plymouth Township Police Department said they arrested 23-year-old Bruce Bear Rudlaff and charged him with breaking and entering a building, a 10-year felony.

The latest incident took place on Nov. 30, he said. Sang Min Park, owner of Tait's Cleaners on Northville Road arrived at his business on Dec. 1 and encountered a subject inside it, according to Antal. He chased the subject out, but later found several hundred dollars missing from the cash register.

Antal said police received information then from city detectives, who had experienced a rash of thefts from businesses and suspected Rudlaff in them, as well.

"We've been looking at him all along," said Det. Lt. Ed Ochal. Rudlaff grew up in the community and has been in trouble with the law for a large portion of his life, Ochal said.

Township detectives put a line up together and Park identified Rudlaff,

according to Antal. They started to prepare a request for a warrant, but feared Rudlaff would strike again. The Community Response Team (CRT) put him under surveillance.

"Eventually, Rudlaff was followed to a closed business where he was observed to pry open the window," Antal said. He was arrested without incident.

Ochal said the suspect would face charges in the city incidents, as well.

"He's got a long list of charges to face from both us and the township," he said.

Rudlaff's preliminary court examination is set for Dec. 19 at 35th District Court. He's currently in Wayne County Jail on a \$100,000 cash bond.

Ochal said the Tait's Cleaners break-in had followed the same form as the previous ones in the city. Rudlaff allegedly broke into several businesses, all within his own neighborhood. Ochal said that was because he felt more comfortable there, and could evade pursuit easier.

"We've had this before, but it's problematic when he's got a real inside view of the neighborhood," Ochal said. "It's not impossible (to catch him). It just takes a little longer."

Anyone with more information about the incidents can call township detectives Antal or Mark Hoffman at (734) 354-3241.



Mike Simowski (left), executive director of The Senior Alliance checks out The Mayor's Bear with Wayne Mayor Al Haidous.

Senior Alliance will raffle 'Mayor's Bear'

The Senior Alliance (TSA) has a new friend to help promote the organization and generate funds for some programs.

He's only about 4 feet tall, but officials at the TSA hope his soft fur and sunny disposition will translate into good will – and a few bucks – for the group, which provides senior assistance services to 32 communities in southern Michigan.

It's called The Mayor's Bear, and the huge plush toy will be awarded to one lucky winner through a raffle, according to Bill Campbell, marketing and resource development manager for TSA.

"We're hoping this will become a yearly thing," he said.

Wayne Mayor Al Haidous said he was happy to lend his title to the bear. It's on display at the Wayne Senior Activity building, which is on the corner of Sims Street and Wayne Road. Tickets are \$1 each. They'll also be sold at Haidous' store, Al's Friendly Market, on Howe and Annapolis roads in Wayne.

"We're hoping this will help get the word out about the alliance," Campbell said.

The gigantic bear was donated by Peter Magic, who works at an auto dealership in

Livonia. He's a gifted competitor at the midway games found at various carnivals and events throughout the nation. He wins the huge toys, then donates them to various charitable organizations so they can auction them.

Mike Simowski, executive director of TSA, said it made sense to put on the contest in Wayne, where TSA has its offices.

"They're our stewards," he said. "We're in the city. They've been very accommodating to us."

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OBITUARIES

SHAFFER, Dorothea E.

Dorothea E. Shaffer, 94, of Farmington Hills, formerly a 60-year resident of Romulus, died Nov. 30.

Among her survivors are her friends Carl and Gail Ann Birch with whom she had lived for 11 years and her adopted grandchildren, Michael and Leslie Birch.

Mrs. Shaffer was an assistant buyer for the J.L. Hudson Co. and a branch manager for the Michigan Secretary of State in Romulus.

She served as the international leader of the Order of the White Shrine of Jerusalem in 1967 and was the Supreme Worthy Scribe for the Masonic organization for 22 years. She was a past Royal Matron of the Order the Amaranth, past Queen of the Daughters of the Nile, past Commander of the True Kindred and a member of the Order of the Eastern Star.

She served on the Romulus Downtown Development Authority for several years.

Funeral services were at the R.G. and G. R. Harris Funeral Home in Livonia.

LONG, Marie

Marie Long, 68, of Willis, died Dec. 13.

Among her survivors are her husband, Grady Long; daughters, Lois (Gary) Long of Belleville, Wanda (Terry Cantu) Long of Whitmore Lake, Betty Sieloff of Willis, Linda Lue (Timothy) Troin of Ypsilanti and Lisa (James) Zarr of Brooklyn; 17 grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were at the David C. Brown Funeral Home with the Rev. Wayne Killien officiating.

Interment was at the Union-Udell Cemetery in Ypsilanti Township.

HENRY, Darrel Scott Sr.

Darrel Scott Henry, Sr, 37, of Lewiston, MI, formerly of Belleville, died Dec. 9.

Among his survivors are his wife, Debra Elise (Emala) Henry of Garden City; his children, Sally, Daniella, Samantha, Nicole, Darrel, Jr; Derrick and Darren, all of Garden City; his parents, Eugene Leroy and Ruth Ann (Wilson) Henry; siblings, Denise (Johnny) Esposito of Canada, Dale (Lori) Henry, Daniel (Melanie) Henry and Dawn (Chuck) Halstead, all of Belleville, Donita (Clay) Farnsworth of UT and Dominick Henry of Belleville, and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were at the Metro Baptist Church in Belleville where Mr. Scott was a member with the Rev. John L. Vaprezman officiating.

Interment was at Cadillac Memorial Gardens in Westland.

Arrangements were entrusted to the David C. Brown Funeral Home in Belleville.

KEENE, Susan M.

Susan M. Keene, 64, of Maple Forest Township, formerly of Belleville, died Dec. 5 in Grayling.

Among her survivors are her children, Connie (Larry) Meyer of Carleton, Robert (Francine) Keene of Traverse City and Micahel (Dana) Keene of Johannesburg; her mother in law, Josephine Keene; siblings, Rose (Pierre) Laginess of New Boston, Carol (Dennie) Sturtz, Jim (Joanne) Posegay and Joe (Mary) Posegay, all of Belleville, and grandchildren, Joshua, Jessica, Jacob, Erica, Alex, Brooke, Torri Anne, Troy, Tristan and Travis.

Mrs. Keene served as the Maple Forest Township clerk for 28 years before her retirement. She was a 1957 graduate of Belleville High School.

Funeral services were at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Grayling where Mrs. Keene was a member, with the Rev. Robert Nalley officiating.

Interment was at Maple Forest Township Cemetery.

Arrangements were entrusted to the David C. Brown Funeral Home in Belleville.

CERVANTES, Hazel L.

Hazel L. Cervantes, 83, of Romulus, died Dec. 8.

Among her survivors are her son, Ronald (Linda) Davison of Hale; daughter, Dorothy (Donald) Hunt of Pontiac; a brother, Gail Barth of Florida, and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were at Fair Haven Baptist Church in Westland where Mrs. Cervantes was a member with brother Jim Harper officiating.

Arrangements were entrusted to the Crane Funeral Home.

CONNELL, Virginia Alice

Virginia Alice (Nickell) Connell, 78, of Philpot, KY, died Nov. 20.

A native of Milan, she retired as executive secretary to the Jury Board of Washtenaw County.

Among her survivors are her daughter, Tamara Nicks of Lamcsa, TX; a son, Thomas Nickell of Edmore; a brother, William Verran of Findlay, OH; grandchildren, Tamara Wilder, Michele Hunter, Wendy Cornett, Joseph Nicks and Teresa Byars, and 14 great-grandchildren, Breanna Kandler, Bradley Wilder, Jeffery Hunter, Mitchell Hunter, Heidi Cornett, Jacob Cornett, Isaac Cornett, Emily Nicks, Riley Nicks, Joshua Byars, Kylie Byars, Garrett Byars, Devyn Byars and Drew Byars.

Services were at the Glenn Funeral Home in Owensboro, KY.

Interment was in Turkey Creek First Baptist Church Cemetery in Plant City, FLA.

MATHENEY, Zenna Virginia

Zenna Virginia Matheney, 75, of Wayne, died Oct. 24.

Among her survivors are her children, Charles (Pat) Sparks, Rod (Bettie) Sparks, Gary (Karen) Sparks, William Sparks, Karen Sparks and Robert Matheney; brothers, Kensie Anthony and Kenneth Anthony; sisters, Louise McComas and Barbara Kelley; an aunt, Imogene Bryant and an uncle, Hoy Smallwood.

Funeral services were at the Uht Funeral Home with the Rev. Bob McDonald officiating.

Interment was at Mt. Hope Memorial Gardens in Livonia.

DROUILLARD, Webster L. Sr.

Webster L. Drouillard, Sr., 49, of Westland, died Dec. 2.

Among his survivors are his wife of 29 years, Marie; children, Webster, Jr (Monica), Peter (Kelly) and Yvette; a grandson, Ethan, and his mother, Helen Webster.

Funeral services were at St. Simon and Jude Catholic Church in Westland with Father Gerard Berchard officiating.

Interment was at Michigan Memorial Park in Flat Rock.

Arrangements were entrusted to the Harry J. Will Funeral Home in Wayne.

ANDERSON, Jeffery Scott

Jeffery Scott Anderson, 40, of Wayne died Nov. 26.

Among his survivors are his parents, Hugh (Barbara) Anderson and Mary Anderson; a brother, Michael Anderson, and a sister, Amy (Robin) Little.

Funeral services were at Harry Will Funeral Home in Wayne with the Rev. William Hill officiating.

Interment was at Knollwood Cemetery in Canton Township.

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE ROMULUS CITY COUNCIL HELD DECEMBER 1, 2003 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER ROMULUS CITY HALL, 11111 S. WAYNE ROAD, ROMULUS, MICHIGAN 48174.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Pro-Tem Randolph Gear.

Present: LeRoy Burcroff, William A. Crova, Randolph Gear, Michael Prybyla, Debbie Romak, William Wadsworth.

Absent: None.

Administrative Officials in Attendance:

Alan Lambert, Mayor

Linda R. Choate, CMC, Clerk

Pamela Morrison/Kersey, CMFA, Treasurer

1. Motion by Romak, supported by Crova to approve the agenda as amended.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays - None. Motion Carried Unanimously.

03-494

2. Motion by Wadsworth, supported by Burcroff to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council held November 24, 2003.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays -None. Abstain: Miller. Motion Carried.

03-495

3A. Motion by Burcroff, supported by Prybyla to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Commission and introduce an ordinance to amend the official zoning map of the City by rezoning a 7.73 acre parcel DP#82-80-004-99-007-00 at 28035 Beverly Road, PC2003-033, from M-1 (Light Industrial) to MT-2 (Industrial Transportation 2) subject to the letter dated November 5, 2003 from Planning Consultants, Langworthy, Strader, LeBlanc and Associates, P.C., specifically items 1-5..

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Prybyla, Wadsworth. Nays - Romak Motion Carried.

03-496

3B. Motion by Wadsworth, supported by Crova based on a recommendation of the Romulus Police Department to transfer ownership of a 2003 Specially Designated Distributor and Specially Designated Merchant Licenses with Sunday Sales Permit from Farouk Kizy to Caesar's Marketplace, and transfer location from 36547 Goddard, Romulus Michigan, 48174 Wayne County, to 36521 Goddard, Romulus Michigan, 48174, Wayne County.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.

Nays - None. Motion Carried Unanimously.

4A. Deleted.

03-497

4B. Motion by Crova, supported by Romak to adopt a memorial resolution to the family of Leonard Barr.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.

Nays - None. Motion Carried Unanimously.

4C. Motion by Romak, supported by Burcroff to accept the Chairman's Report.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.

Nays - None. Motion Carried Unanimously.

6A. No action taken.

03-498

8. Motion by Romak, supported by Wadsworth to adopt a policy of the city council taking an official position on pending, present, or proposed legislation, whether state or federal, by first adopting appropriate council resolutions pertaining to legislation that may directly, or indirectly, affect the City of Romulus.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.

Nays - None. Motion Carried Unanimously.

11. Motion by Wadsworth, supported by Romak to adjourn the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays - None. Motion Carried Unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda R. Choate, CMC, Clerk
City of Romulus, Michigan

Publish: December 18, 2003



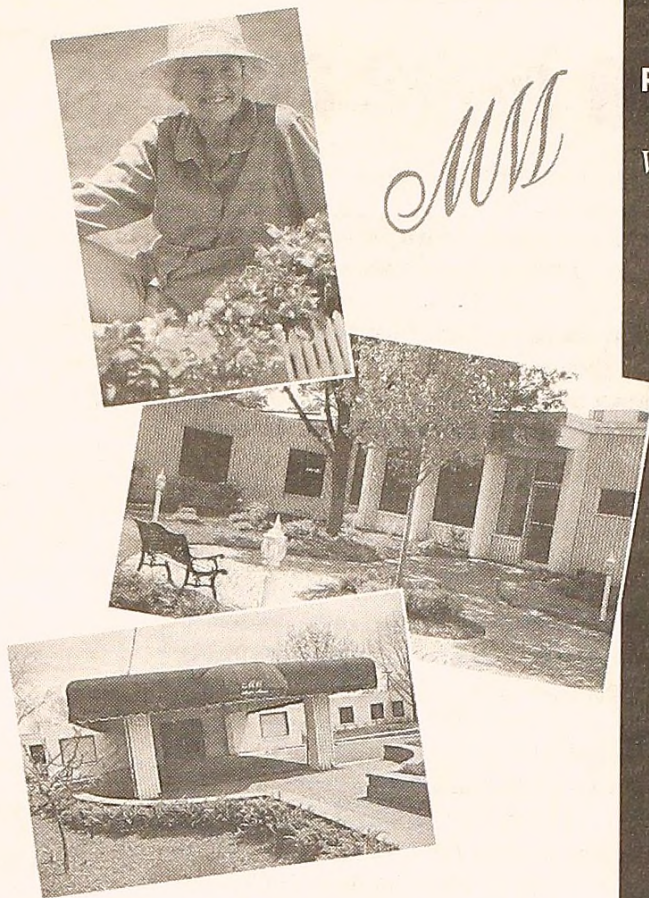
Joyful noise

The Vocal Dimensions, a singing group from Wayne Memorial High School, treated members of the Wayne Rotary Club to a holiday concert last week. The students are under the direction of Dr. Howard Mehler who accompanied them to the Community Center to entertain the Rotarians. The singers performed holiday favorites during the regular Tuesday meeting of the club and awed the audience with their performance.

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OPINION

You gotta have art

Every community should have a proactive, vibrant organization like the Northville Arts Commission (NAC).

Here is a classic example of a group that can use artistic endeavors to further all types of cultural and entertainment values in a community.

Their latest endeavor, a monument on Base Line Road to recognize the efforts of surveyors as they mapped out our country and to honor the particular significance that Base Line Road and the State of Michigan played in that vital project, has surpassed all expectations.

David Barr, the Novi artist who in part designed the work, said that, when it came to mapping and surveying land, the State of Michigan represented a change in the way of thinking.

He and others who researched the project told of cartographers armed only with a 66-foot length of chain (which had to be heated in the wintertime, to maintain the same length) and a compass, traipsing through mosquito thick swamps as they literally paved the way for the rest of us.

The NAC has also done its part to educate residents in the past, through art lecture series that have looked at different periods in history and how the arts and culture related to the times. The latest project is now different. They involved representatives from the state Museum of Surveying (yes, there is such a place) and the Northville Public School District as they developed something that not only looks impressive, but is worth the stop to read.

This is a group of volunteers that have steadily worked away since 1980 to promote art in the community, to expand horizons, to teach. They have made their mark in the community in intangible ways in the past, though these education efforts and other arts events as well as through the annual art market that takes place during the Victorian Festival.

Their latest focus, to provide public art throughout the community, has also born fruit and we wish them every success in their upcoming endeavors.

Members of the group referred to the surveyors commemorated by the monument as unsung heroes, esteemed professionals. We could say the same thing about them.

State gambling on our vices

Officials in the State of Michigan have a long track record of knowing where to look to increase revenue for the state coffers.

They simply cater to – or try to tax – our vices.

Whether it's an increase in a tax on cigarettes, more lottery games, or most recently, the ability for race track owners to install video lottery terminals (VLTs) in their facilities, there is no shortage of behaviors can be in advertently make more money for Michigan.

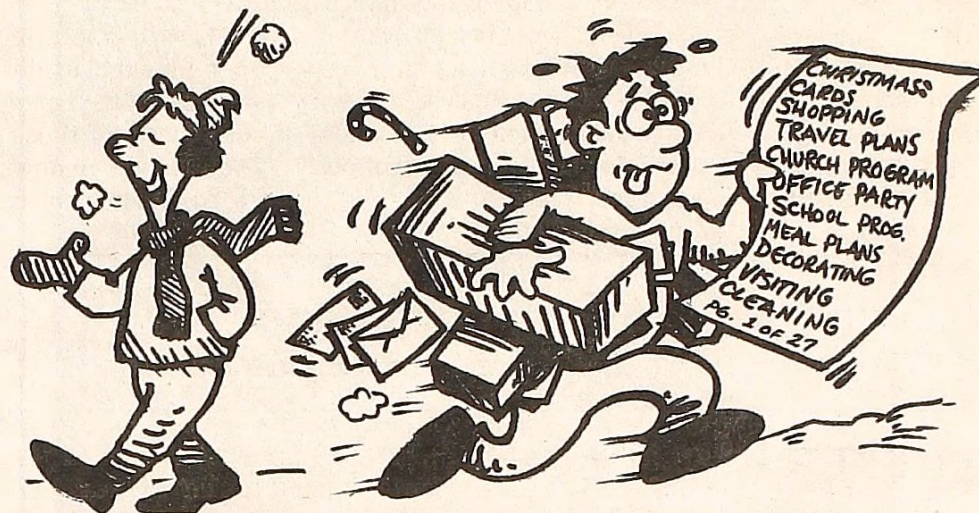
The latest plan, to allow VLTs in racetracks, isn't a very good one. It would turn racetracks into 'racinos,' and officials say that will automatically translate into more money for the State of Michigan.

It's not guaranteed that that will happen, though. The existence of such machines isn't going to magically transform those of us who don't like to gamble or don't have any disposable income into gamblers. It's unlikely to increase the net number of gamblers in the state. More likely, it will only give those that already visit the casinos a different option of where they want to go. It'll spread the money around locally, but not state wide.

The issue has already been approved by the House of Representatives, and it's pending in the Senate, where it's expected to be voted on this week.

See **Racing**, page 10

I JUST LOVE THE HOLIDAY SEASON...
IT'S A CHANCE TO TAKE A BREAK AND
RELAX A LITTLE...!!



I still believe in Father Christmas

Well here it is, a week away from Christmas, and I still haven't caught on to the Christmas spirit.

What's wrong with me?

I am typically brimming with Christmas joy, and I've got no excuse not to be. My 3-year-old son, Henry, is looking forward to it, and I enjoy his antics, going through catalogues, picking out toys, planning what we're going to give to his friends, my friends, family.

Also, through my job, I get to learn a lot about what everyone else is doing to spread the cheer or some goodwill during the season. Whether it's Salvation Army bell-ringers who brave the cold and indifference of shoppers, companies that gather toys and food to deliver to needy families, Christmas cards to be sent overseas to our troops.

There are examples out there, everywhere.

This year, though, I felt my Christmas spirit tinged by skepticism. It started about a month ago, just after Thanksgiving, when announcements came out through all sorts of media outlets that the economy was rebounding. I saw it on CNN, MSNBC.com, read about it in the daily papers.

Hmm. The economy rebounds just in time for a big shopping season. How convenient.

I even questioned the timing of the capture of Saddam Hussein, even though that news was greeted with warmth.

I really took notice of my lack of seasonal jocularity this weekend, though, when we were driving

home from a party where Santa Claus appeared.

My wife, Lisa, listens to a radio station that has been playing Christmas music non-stop since like the middle of October. She said Henry likes it, so she turned it on. After a few songs, a "popular" (I guess) version of a Christmas carol came across the airwaves, sung by The Chipmunks.

No way, I thought, and abruptly turned the channel. Christmas music has a tendency to get on my nerves, especially in large doses, but the Chipmunks were even worse.

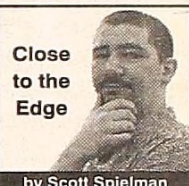
"But Henry likes that song!" Lisa protested.

Sure enough, the little guy started kicking and screaming in the back seat. I mean, it was a real freak-out. You'd think there was nothing more important to him than to listen to that song; he tested his lungs – and my ears – screeching for me to turn it back on.

The screaming was easier for me to tolerate, though, and the kid can't always get his way, right?

I've always looked at the holidays as a time of reflection, a time to slow my pace a bit and notice the good things around me.

I know I'll soon get into that mindframe again; maybe when I'm wrapping presents or watching them be opened. In the meantime, I know that I'll see many other examples of Christmas cheer and giving.



Close to the Edge

by Scott Spielman

Start your 'bad' day over any time

"It will be just a minute," said Kathy, the cashier at Kmart. She was breaking open rolls of change as she prepared for her first customer of the day—me.

"I can't wait that long," I said.

She looked up, realized I was kidding, smiled and continued to work on the coins.

"Smack the roll of coins on the side of the register to split the wrapper," I said.

"They usually come apart a lot easier," she said.

"This is starting to be one of those terrible days."

Geez, I thought, talk about overreaction.

"My car stopped working and I had to call a cab. They said they'd be there in a half an hour, but it took over an hour and I was late for work." I noticed her fingers were shaking indicating she was nervous.

While I was waiting, I pulled a piece of paper out of my pocket and wrote down the following: "Remember, Kathy, you can start your day over any time you want."

She finished her cash drawer and I handed her the note. Geez, if I had been in a bank, in her state, she probably would have thought she was being robbed.

She read it, smiled, and put it right on top of the register where she could see it.

"Thank you," Kathy said, and began scanning the item I was buying.

Take a minute and think about Kathy. When you feel like your day is going to hell in a hand basket, stop and start the day over. Choose to think differently and you'll find yourself in a place with numerous options.

Perception is a funny thing. All it seems we've been hearing lately is how badly the economy is doing in the aftermath of Sept. 11. Yet, at 9 Thanksgiving morning, the parking lot at Kmart was full. I'd gone out to get a couple of newspapers and, as I drove past a Kmart, couldn't believe what I was seeing.

I called the Channel 7 assignment desk.

"Dan, you know all the talk we hear about tough times and people fearful because of recession?"

"Yes."

"Well, the parking lot of Kmart is jammed and it's 9 Thanksgiving Day morning."

"It's perception," Dan said. "It's the perception of recession that people are going with."

"Well, why don't you send a crew and reporter and report on the perception of the hundreds of people here?"

Our perception is all we have, it's what we believe in, it's our reality.



This is life

by Jerry Stanecki

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See **Bad day**, page 9

Bad day

FROM PAGE 8

The media helps form our perception daily. Television, radio, newspapers, movies, books—all forms of media inundate us daily, and unless we choose differently, we can easily find ourselves living in fear constantly.

The day after Thanksgiving, the so-called biggest shopping day of the year, I called a friend who is the general manager of a computer store. I told him about the Kmart experience. He, in

turn, stunned me.

"Jerry, I've done \$100,000 in business today and it's just past noon."

A hundred-Gs in a few hours. Incredible. Recession?

There's an old saying about believing what is presented: "Believe nothing of what you hear, and only half of what you see." Maybe that's not a bad idea.

A better idea is to remember you can start your day over anytime you want when your perception is negative and you're setting yourself up for more headaches—and do so with a powerful positive approach.

Racing

FROM PAGE 8

The senate has proposed one important amendment to the package—the ability of local governments to have a voice in the planning, and possibly the very presence of these machines in the racetracks.

That's important, because it is the local municipalities that will see more of the benefits and disadvantages of these facilities. They'll be the first responders in the case of any emergency, med-

ical or criminal. They'll have to deal with the influx of more people into their communities. They'll have to plan how best to preserve the character of their towns.

City council members in Northville and, now, Romulus are weighing the issue virtually every day and paying rapt attention to the developments.

This is of particular concern in the City of Northville, where officials have had a mixed relationship with Northville Downs

which is one of the staples of the community. If they had their way, they wouldn't have video lottery terminals at the track; it's virtually diametrically opposed to the character of the town they've tried so hard to preserve.

Officials there feel that the change is inevitable, though, and maybe it is. If so, the least the legislature can do as it scrambles to increase revenues in any way they can is to make sure the local governments can protect their communities.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Estate

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF WAYNE
FILE NO. 03-662644-DE

Estate of Lidia Bowdzziel, Deceased

Date of birth: 04-13-1911

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Lidia Bowdzziel, who lived at 8202 Wormer, Dearborn Heights Michigan 40197, died 02-26-2003.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Olga Kiebler named personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

12-11-03

Rosemarie E. Aquilina P37670
Attorney (Bar no.)
229 North Pine Street
Lansing, MI 48933 (517) 371-4144

Olga Kiebler
Personal Representative
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Publish: December 18, 2003

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BUSINESS

Overnight child care to be offered at new facility

Theresa Wherrett
Staff Writer

It's hard enough for parents to find good, affordable child care during regular business hours. But for parents working the second or third shift, it can be next to impossible.

"There is really a need for overnight childcare," said Christina Bolitho, director of the soon-to-opened 24-hour Spectrum Community Services Child Care Center in Westland. "I've been getting a lot of calls."

According to the Michigan Community Coordinated Child Care (4C) Association, there are approximately 430,000 children ages 0-12 in the state of

"There is only one other 24-hour care facility in the area that I've heard of."

Christina Bolitho

Michigan who require care by a non-relative, but only slightly more than 350,000 regulated spaces. The 4C Association calls the shortage of odd-hour care "acute."

"There is only one other 24-hour care facility in the area that I've heard of," said Bolitho.

The need for overnight childcare is something that would have been unheard of just a generation ago. However, with eco-

nomie shifts making it harder to support a family with just one breadwinner, many families have both parents in the workforce. Other parents are raising children alone, without a spouse and with extended family far away. Add to that the speed of today's society, with never-closed industrial factories and the proliferation of 24-hour stores like Meijer's Thrifty Acres, and the combination is ripe for people

working odd hours and having no one at home to look after the children.

"Many parents can find care with grandparents or neighbors," Bolitho said. "But many people don't have this option. What are they supposed to do? They need to go to work."

The Spectrum Community Child Care Center, scheduled to open in January 2004, will be able to accommodate up to 80 children on each of the three shifts and will be open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The center will care for children ages 3 months to 12 years.

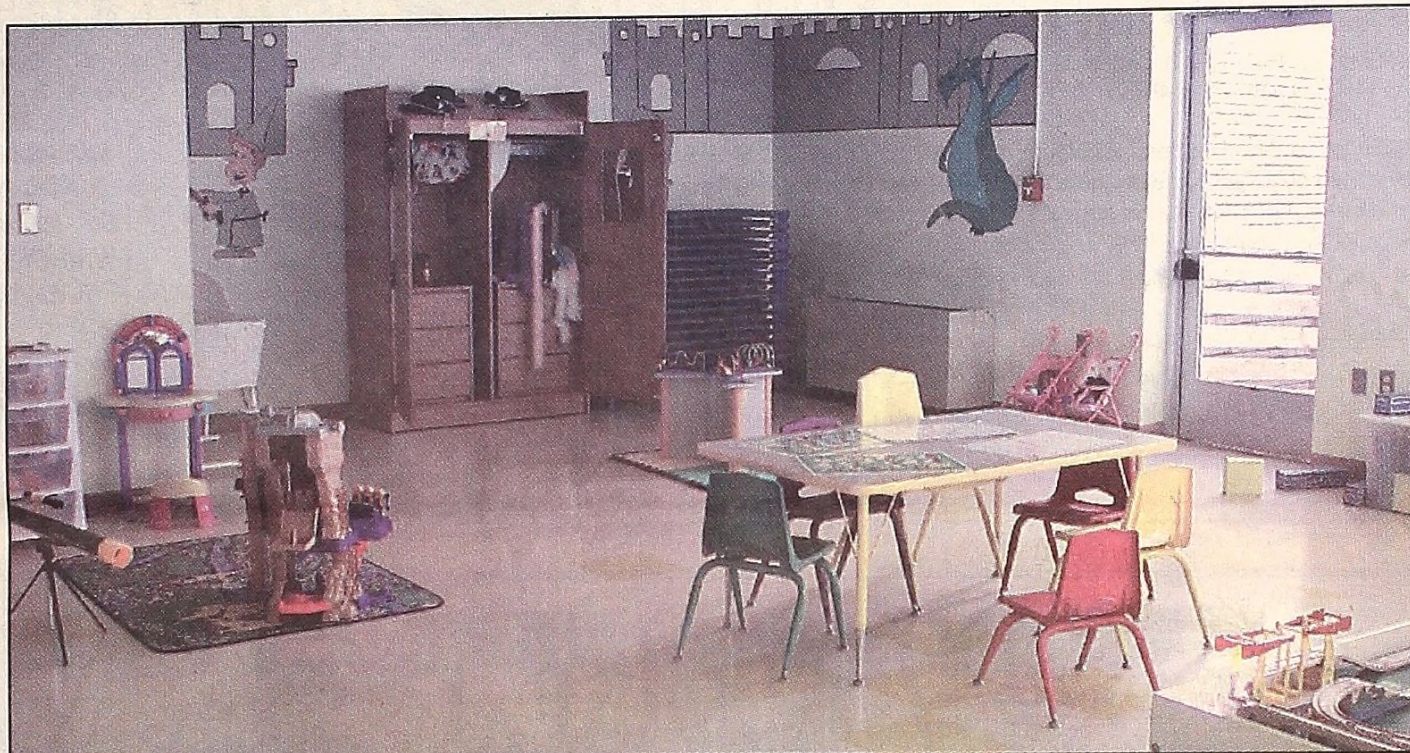
Bolitho said there were a variety of features at the 15,500-square-foot facility.

"We have a computer room and a study room. We have separate age-appropriate play areas. We have a sick child area."

Children spending the night will have beds in separate sleeping areas, with the children divided by age and sex.

The center still has openings, according to Bolitho. Interested parties may call 734-458-8729 for more information. The center is located at 28303 Joy Road.

Spectrum Community Services Child Care Center in Westland will open a 24-hour, seven-days-a-week facility with accommodations for children through age 12 in January.



Children can create Christmas gifts at art studio

Sharon Emeigh
Staff Writer

This Christmas, children can learn the value giving of themselves by making their own Christmas gifts by hand.

For the holiday season, in cooperation with Canton Township Leisure Services, D&M Art Studio will host a "Kids Only" Fine Art Workshop. This is

the 17th year that the event has been available in the community, according to Donna Knight, general manager at D&M Studio.

Workshops are available for students and teens, ages 6 and up, from 1-3 p.m. Dec. 22, from 4:30-6:30 p.m. today, and from 10 a.m. until noon and 1-3 p.m. tomorrow and Dec. 22.

Workshops are \$24 per session.

The studio does most of the prep work ahead of time, Knight said.

So the children only need decorate the gifts that they would like to make.

D&M Studio is always there for kids, Knight said.

"Anytime kids have a day off school, we try to put something together for them to do here," she added.

There are a number of other workshops available for artists of all ages, according to Knight.

The holiday workshops will be available at both D&M Studio and Summit on the Park.

D&M Studio is located at 8691 Lilley Road in Canton Township. To register for a holiday workshop or for more information on services available at D&M Studio, call 734-453-3710.

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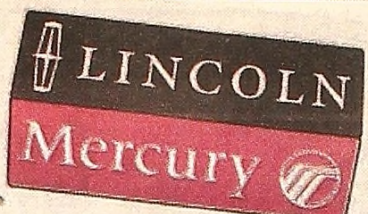
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Going native

Native American dancers help children grasp cultural differences

Meghan Chatham
Staff Writer

Fourth and fifth grade students at Ridge Wood Elementary School in Northville experienced Native American culture firsthand last week when Reg and Marca Pettibone presented their authentic Indian dance program.

According to Lisa Di Rado, junior enrichment series chairperson for the Ridge Wood Parent Teacher Association (PTA), the program began with a request from the fourth grade teachers for a Native American program to supplement the social studies curriculum. Fifth grade students also attended the demonstration because they studied the relevant section last year.

Pettibone said that he and his wife demonstrated traditional dances in authentic costumes for the students. Marca Pettibone performed a traditional woman's dance designed to "give thanks to where life comes from, mom and Mother Earth." His dance, Pettibone said, was a man's traditional dance, designed to honor the father for taking care of the family. In addition, he said the couple discussed such things as the Circle of Life, how Native Americans lived, and what can be done to preserve the Earth during the program. Pettibone said that he is a full-blooded member of the Ho-Chink nation- formerly and, he said, incorrectly known as the Winnebago nation- of Wisconsin. His wife is a member of the

Paiute nation of Nevada. Pettibone said that he hopes to introduce students to his heritage through these demonstrations.

"Anytime there's a live demonstration and discussion, (the issue) becomes much more meaningful (for the students)," said Nancy Raynes, principal of Ridge Wood Elementary.

Raynes added that she had seen Pettibone perform several years before at another school, and that the students there were very impressed by the show.

Di Rado said that she was very impressed when she saw Pettibone perform in a showcase hosted by the Michigan Humanities Council.

"He (Pettibone) seems like he has a lot of energy, and he's very authentic," said Di Rado. "He's very, very interesting."

She added that seeing a real Native American dancer performing his art would be extremely helpful for the students.

"We do have the dance and the music mixed in with the social studies curriculum," said Di Rado.

Raynes agreed, saying that she has found that live demonstrations tend to result in a number of good things, including the opportunity to learn about cultures students have never seen before and enhancing the meaning of the current curriculum.

"We've been doing this for more than 12 years in the schools (in Michigan)," said Pettibone.

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Foundation, local businesses help renovate 'Opportunity House'

Megan Chatham
Staff Writer

Sixteen individuals with developmental disabilities have received the gift of privacy, thanks to donations from several supporters, including the Wilcox Foundation. The donations were used to expand their existing residence, the 28-year-old Plymouth Opportunity House (POH), creating four additional bedrooms and two new bathrooms. This renovation means that all of the residents now enjoy private bedrooms.

"It's a renovation we're pretty excited about," said Denise King, executive director of the Community Opportunity Center (COC), a non-profit management agency based in Livonia. Currently COC manages 11 homes and nine apartment settings in Plymouth, Livonia, Garden City, Westland, and Redford, including Plymouth Opportunity House.

Plymouth Opportunity House, located on Deer Street in downtown Plymouth, was the site of an open house last month to celebrate the expansion.

According to King, the response to the open house was impressive, with more than 125 guests stopping by for light refreshments and a tour of the newly renovated private bedrooms and common rooms. Each guest received a thank you note created by the residents and a mini-chocolate bar with a label hand-stamped by the occupants.

"It was a happy occasion," said King.

According to Emory Daniels, president of the Community Opportunity Center Board, Plymouth House was one of the first homes of this kind when it was created 28 years ago.

"(It was) an opportunity for 16 people with developmental disabilities to experience community living with peers who ultimately became their friends," said Daniels.

Eventually the groundbreaking facility fell behind in terms of the amenities offered by other,

The house was built in 1975, and it still has the original cabinets which need to be replaced due the amount of use they have seen over the years.

Denise King

newer facilities.

"Plymouth House was one of only two homes supported through (Community Opportunity Center) that did not offer people a bedroom of their own," said Daniels.

Although earlier changes created eight private bedrooms at POH through the redistribution of office space and staff quarters, four more bedrooms were still needed.

"The expansion now makes it possible for all (residents) to have his (or) her own bedroom," said Daniels.

The project, which King said had a cost of almost \$200,000, was recently completed. Now, the house will begin renovating the kitchen.

"The house was built in 1975, and it still has the original cabinets which need to be replaced due the amount of use they have

seen over the years," King said.

Jeff Stella, of Stella Contracting, Inc. in Plymouth, has donated and will be installing new kitchen cabinets and counters.

According to King, the changes are proving very popular among residents.

"Those who live at POH are very excited about their private living quarters and the significant life-style changes that this brings about," said King.

She added that the families of the residents are equally as excited about the change.

"Everybody took a lot of interest in redoing their loved one's room," said King.

The remodeling was partially funded by the Wilcox Trust. According to Daniels, the trust was founded in 1980 when long-term Plymouth resident Jack Wilcox left his estate in a trust to

be used to improve the community.

"Jack's philosophy was that his assets should be used to build a better future by providing seed money to (create) lasting improvements or other long-term benefits by partnering with organizations whose projects will become self-sustaining and provide opportunities for others to shine long into the future," said Daniels.

According to King, the Wilcox trust provided two-thirds of the funds for the renovations, while POH was responsible for collect-

ing the remaining third of the money.

"A lot of families...contributed to the addition," said King.

Other donors include Manresa Alhambras, architect Bill Lindhout of Lindhout & Associates, and United Parcel Service of Livonia. Additional donations were collected through a fundraiser with Parisian of Livonia, and through the annual COC golf outing, co-sponsored by the Plymouth Community United Way, with support from DTE Energy, Johnson Control, and Visteon.

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The administrative offices will be closed on the following days in observance of the Christmas holidays:

Wednesday - December 24, 2003
Thursday - December 25, 2003
Thursday - January 1, 2004
Friday - January 2, 2004

The Department of Public Safety and the Fire Department will remain open.

The administrative offices are located at the following addresses:

Township Hall
Township Finance Building
Township Water & Sewer

41600 W. Six Mile Road
41660 W. Six Mile Road
16225 Beck Road

Residents wishing to pay their taxes before year-end may do so up until 4:30 p.m. on **Wednesday, December 31, 2003** at the Township Finance Building.

Sue A. Hillebrand, Clerk
Charter Township of Northville

Publish: December 18, 2003

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121. Autos Wanted

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1FMEU15Y9DLA25462
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1G2WJ14T1MF232292
1997 Plymouth
1P3EJ46C6VN530642
1984 Lincoln
1LNBP96F1EY745011
1990 Ford
1FMCA11U2LZB81079
1990 Ford
2FAPP36X7LB190002
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1Y1SK5463LZ169455
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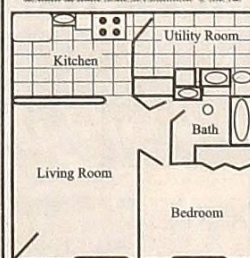
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SPORTS



Roderick Walker (right) and the Zebras defeated Dearborn 60-55 in last Fridays' meeting.

Zebras overcome Dearborn, 60-55, drop to Romulus, 66-50

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

The Wayne Zebras' team effort on the court beat a tough Dearborn team, 60-55, to even out their overall record 1-1.

Senior forward Justin Williams may have scored 30 points for Dearborn but it was the combination of Wayne players that prevailed.

Senior Geno Safford led the team with 14 points and junior center Gene Nix added 13 to help the Zebras in the win. Senior forward Brian Hearst contributed nine points and nabbed nine rebounds. Freshman guard Roderick Walker added eight points, eight assists and seven rebounds in his second varsity game.

Dearborn started out quick to take a 20-11 lead to end the first quarter but Wayne pushed forward and brought the game to within one at 33-32 to end the first half, according to Wayne coach Wayne Woodard.

Both teams scored 12 in the third to keep it a one-point game, 45-44. It wasn't until the fourth quarter that the Zebras were able to take control.

"It was back and forth the whole game but we outscored them by six points in the fourth," Woodard said. "Walker and Safford both hit two free throws in the last minute to seal the game for us."

In the end, the Zebras walked away with the 60-55 win.

The giant win came after a close bout with a tough Romulus Eagle team. The

Zebras had a hard time containing Romulus' senior forward Ronald Coleman who busted loose to score 27 points in the 66-50 loss. Coleman recently signed a letter of intent to play ball at the University of Michigan.

"Coleman really controlled the game," Woodard said. "He had a lot of help, too. Last year he scored 23 on us but he had a lot more help this year. They played hard and they played together - they're going to be a tough team."

Coleman had help from junior guards Jarrett Smith and Anre Partee each added 11 points for Romulus. Smith also signed to play with the University of Michigan.

Safford led the Zebras with 14 points. "It was a close game at first," Woodard said.

"We had a kid go down with a injury to his back and hip - from there they (Romulus) just took off."

Wayne played at Belleville Tuesday night but the results were unavailable for this edition. Belleville was Wayne's last game before the long holiday break and Woodard said the time off would do his team good.

"Hopefully it will help us get healthy," he said.

"We have two kids out hurt, three are sick and others are nursing injuries. The break is coming at a good time for us - hopefully we can get healed up and get ready for the long stretch."

When they return from break they will face off against Truman and Salem.

Canton tops Monroe, 61-42, falls to Novi, 46-33

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

In his first game back as a coach for Canton since 1992, Head Coach Charlie Paye led his Chiefs to a major 61-42 win against the Monroe Trojans last Tuesday night.

Senior forward D.J. Bridges led the team with a double-double. He scored 19 points and recorded 10 rebounds in the win. Senior Forward Brad Waidman notched 12 points and Matt Paye knocked in nine for the team.

Sophomore guard Anthony McIntosh led Monroe with 10 points on the night.

Canton started out slow and fell behind 24-20 at the halfway point but managed to turn it around in the second.

"They had good size and were athletic. They beat us by 25 last year," Paye said. "We were able to shut them down on offense, though, and started making shots. We played well on defense."

The Chiefs came back to score 41 points in the second half to put the game away and Paye recorded his first win as the head coach. He said it felt good to be back.

"I was out of coaching for two years and got the itch to get back in," he said. "I just wanted to see what it was like to run the program rather than be somebody's assistant or junior varsity coach."

"I also have two kids in the program - but that was only a small part of the reason I came back...A very small reason," he added.

Paye and the Chiefs didn't fair as well against Novi on Friday night where they fell 46-33 to the Wildcats.

Canton started out faster than they did against Monroe and pulled away with a 10-0 lead in the first half. But they stalled in the later part of the half and fell behind 19-13.

"We were up by 10 and they didn't score for the first seven minutes of the game," Paye said.

"But we reached a point where we didn't score for a 10 minute period and they pulled away."

"The scoring didn't pick up much in the second - we missed a lot of easy stuff, which didn't help," he added.

Matt Paye led the team with eight points and Waidman put in seven for the Mustangs.

They will play Ann Arbor Huron and Brighton at home this week.

"We're capable of winning both games unless we struggle like we did against Novi," Paye said.

"I'm confident that we can. We're a very good team - the defense is better than I expected. Our goal is to win the division and the conference and see what happens in after that."

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Moore stops West Bloomfield in 4-0 shutout

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

Freshman goaltender Joe Moore stopped 21 shots to record a 4-0 shutout to give Salem a victory over West Bloomfield Friday night at Orchard Lake St. Mary's arena.

The game remained close through two scoreless periods but Salem broke it open and scored all four of their goals in the third period.

"It was a good game overall," said Salem coach Fred Feiler. "We out-shot them 14-3 in the first period and they out-shot us in the second. But we got back in our

game in the third.

"Joe Moore played a strong game," he added.

"We had a couple of penalties that gave them a five-on-three advantage and he made some good stops."

Tommy Cooper was the first of the Rocks to put the puck in the net at 1:30 into the third. Rob Quigley and Chris Wilson recorded the assists on the play. Wilson followed it up with a goal at 5:16 into the period with Cooper and Quigley on the assist. Kyle Emmons made it 3-0 at 11:41 and Andy Thakaberry and Ryan Sharrow assisted.

Ryan Jones finished the scor-

ing with at 13:02 into the period with an assist from Andrew Majoranna.

Salem 10, Walled Lake Northern 2

Salem skated away with a 10-2 victory the following night against the new Walled Lake Northern team at the Lakeland Arena.

"We tried to stick to the game plan," Feiler said. "We got away from it a little bit in the second but we're making progress - we're improving every game."

Salem 1, Northville 2

The Rocks suffered a disappointing last minute loss to a rival Northville Mustangs team earlier in the week.

The first period was scoreless

but Salem's Buddy Musa was sent to the box with 1:21 remaining in the period, which allowed the Mustangs to carry over the power-play in the second period. Troy Engelland took advantage and put the puck past Joe Moore to take the lead. Joe and Jake Vitale each recorded an assist on the goal.

Salem answered the attack with a power-play goal by Ryan Jones with 2:11 left in the second. Northville's Blake Brattina was in the penalty box for charging, which allowed for the man advantage.

The game stayed knotted until the final 26 seconds when Joe

Vitale put the puck past Moore for the game winning goal.

Feiler said that they had a chance off of they face off in the final seconds but couldn't punch it in. Although they lost, Feiler was pleased with the performance of the team.

"It was probably our best game of the season to that point," he said. "The defensive game is doing well. The forwards are doing a good job getting back - John Maurer, Ryan Jones and Andy Thakaberry are playing the body well. The communication back there is pretty good."

Salem improved their overall record to 4-4-1.

Mustang hoopsters take two to start season undefeated

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

The Northville Mustangs opened their basketball season up with two wins last week against South Lyon and Hartland.

Most recently, the 'Stangs went on the road and defeated the Hartland Eagles 46-30 last Friday night.

"We did some thing right but still have things to work on," said Northville coach Darrell Schumacher. "We worked on some different things. We were shooting too fast but we did a nice job finishing up."

Schumacher and the team rallied to a 30-9 first-half lead and score 16 more points in the second to put the game away 46-30.

Brett Asher nailed a double-double with 11 points and 18 rebounds for the team and Marcus Davis scored nine for the team and nabbed five rebounds. Tim Downing added seven and Tim Singleton scored six and added six rebounds. Mark Sorenson had 12 steals for Northville.

"We work as a team we get the ball to a lot of different players," Schumacher said. "We don't have a single dominate scorer. If we

can get it from a lot of players - we'll take it."

Although they won, there are always things to work on, according to Schumacher.

"Offensively we have to do better at our cuts and picks," he said. "We were shooting to fast - we don't want to be walking the court - we don't want to be too fast and not execute properly. We were a little poor on rebounding. We need more people to rebound."

Northville's season started out with a close game against South Lyon last Tuesday night that resulted in a 47-44 win for the Mustangs.

The game went back and forth until the last two minutes of the game when Davis pulled out a three-point play to take the lead for good, according to Schumacher. The rest of the game they fought against a tough defense.

"They (South Lyon) have a very good defense and they caused us problems," he said. "They were making us do things that we didn't want to do."

The first half ended 22-21 with South Lyon in the lead.

In the second half they were able to get the ball inside to Asher, which kept them in the game,

according to Schumacher.

Asher led the team with 14 and Singleton hit for 10. Sorenson and Davis each dropped nine points for the Mustangs. Junior Guard Austin McMullen led South Lyon with 20 points.

Northville will head to Milford tonight.

"Their coach has been there for a while," Schumacher said. "I have tremendous respect for him and his program."

They will travel to Dexter to play in the Christmas Tournament Dec. 29 - 30 where they will play Adrian in the first round.

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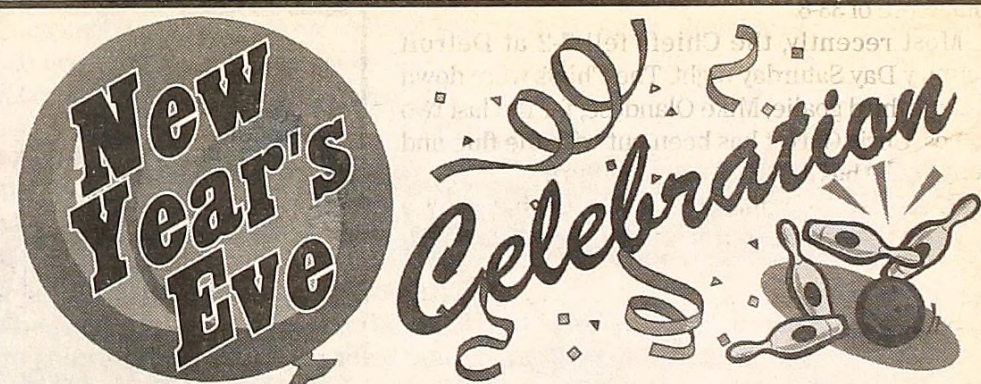
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The Westland Nationals hockey team

Westland Nationals win big in Traverse City

The Westland Nationals won their second tournament of the season by winning the GTHA Invitational Bantam B Tournament December 5-7 in Traverse City, Michigan. The Nationals allowed only two goals in five games. They won their division by beating Saint Clair Shores Storm 5-0, Bay County Blizzards 5-1 and Mid-American Title 10-0. In the

semi-finals they faced Grosse Pointe and came out with a 5-1 victory. They shut down the USA Raptors 6-0 in the final game. Individual MVP's went to Kyle Doupe' (games one and two), John Litwinczuk (game three), Ian Montgomery (game four), and the entire team for game five.

Members of the team include: Jason Allred, David

Ballog (assistant captain), Doupe', Brdley Hubbs (captain), Justin Kollar, Litwinczuk, Mitchell Martin, Montgomery, Tony Osborne, Nick Roach (assistant captain), Sean Sharkey, Jordan Short, Chris Stephenson, Shaun Towler and J.T. Turrin. The team is coached by Jim Sharkey (head coach), Jim Hubbs, Randy Roach and Jim Turrin (assistants).

Grappling for success

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

The Canton Chiefs grappled to fifth place in Salem Invitational with only eight wrestlers in 14 weight classes.

Canton finished with 123 points and was led by freshman Corey Phillips in the 130 pound weight class. He defeated Dave Burr of Salem 3-0 to take home a championship. The other first-place winner was 135-pounder Ryan Webb, who defeated Alex Berenn from Wayne in a 13-0 major decision bout.

Sophomore Konrad Konsitzke landed in second in the 140-pound class and senior Steve Hosey placed fourth in the 145-pound division. Sophomore Sam Santilli at 103, Alex Freitag at 152, Alex Amberg at 160 and PJ Carem at 189 all placed fifth in their respected weight classes. Dave Kersten in his first year of wrestling placed sixth in the 215-weight class.

"We wrestled eight and placed eight," Randolph said. "I was pretty happy about that."

Southgate Tri-Meet

Canton participated in the Southgate Anderson tri-meet last Thursday where they lost to Southgate 54-24 in the first round and defeated Harper Woods Notre Dame 55-18.

Sophomore Ryan Schnette, Santilli, Philips and Webb were all double winners at the invitational.

Hudson Varsity Tournament

The Chiefs placed third in the Hudson Varsity Tournament on Dec. 6. There, they recorded two wins against Hillsdale, 54-27, and Hudson, 50-19, but fell to Napoleon in a 47-22 loss and Jonesville in a 44-36 loss to finish the tournament.

"We wrestled well on that day," Randolph said. "Hudson was a big win - I coached there five years before coming to Canton."

Quad Meet

Canton started the season off with a quad meet against Salem and Wayne Memorial on Dec. 4 where they lost both of their matches. They fell to Wayne 48-27 and neighboring rivals the Salem Rocks beat them 42-30.

Phillips, Webb, Hosey and Kersten recorded double wins in their respected weight classes for Canton.

"They're getting better," said Randolph in only his second year as coach. "Last year I got the job late in the fall and didn't work with the kids until late in the year - I didn't get to work with a lot of the kids at all. So we're doing pretty good considering we had to start from scratch."

"There's not much of a wrestling tradition in this area," Randolph said. "I hope I can establish one in the community."

Canton will host a 10-team Varsity Wrestling tournament at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday

Injuries hamper Chiefs in losing skid

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

Ever since the Canton Chiefs' hockey team beat Notre Dame Prep School 7-4 on Nov. 11 they haven't been able to put together another winning performance. They've dropped the last five games by a total score of 33-8.

Most recently, the Chiefs fell 7-2 at Detroit Country Day Saturday night. The Chiefs were down to their third goalie, Mike Olandese, for the last two games. Chris Garret has been out with the flu and Tony Hylko has been out with an injury.

Reese McCabe and Matt Oliver each scored a goal for the Chiefs, but it was no match for Seth Rogers, who scored four goals for Country Day, and Ben Bukari, who put in three goals and recorded two assists for his team.

Canton suffered a defensive breakdown the previous night against an undefeated Livonia Franklin team, who beat them 8-3. Besides being down two goalies, the Chiefs were missing senior defenseman Mike French.

But it hasn't been the entire fault of the defense. The offense has only scored six goals in the last three games, compared to opponents' 25.

McCabe scored two goals to lead the Chiefs and Brian Wioncek added the other goal. Keith Robert had two goals and recorded three assists to lead Franklin.

The defensive problems started against Walled Lake Central last Wednesday night when Canton fell 10-1. Canton Coach Jim Wheaton rotated all three goalies in the game but nothing worked to hold off the onslaught.

Adam Griffin led the Central team with two goals and three assists, Chad Barry added two goals and two assists, Dale Wrobel and Brad Murphy contributed with two goals each, Shawn Skelly scored once but had four assists and Kevin Francis had a goal and an assist.

Oliver scored the lone goal for Canton unassisted.

"I don't think that anything more could have gone wrong," Wheaton said following the game.

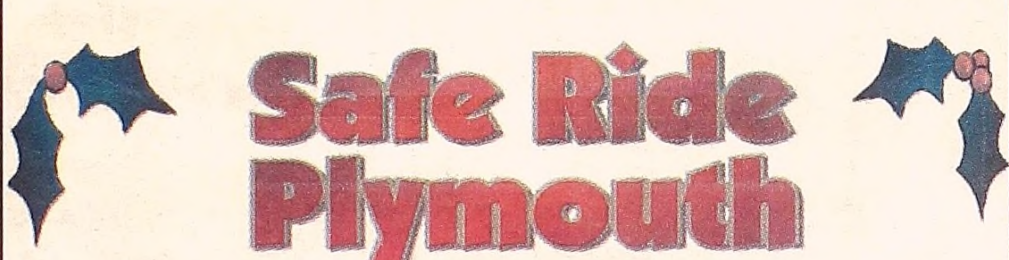
The only thing scarier than losing by nine goals was Hylko dropping to the ice with an injury. He was helped off the ice by teammates and was later diagnosed with a grade-three concussion. He had a hard time moving and feeling his legs after the game, according to Wheaton.

He said Hylko is bouncing back and is expected to be able to play within a couple of weeks.

"I don't want to blame it on injuries," said

Wheaton, "but it doesn't help. There are a lot of little things that we can be doing to make a difference - we just have to get it going again."

Before the Chiefs get their long-awaited and well-deserved holiday break they will have to face off against the new Walled Lake Northern program and L'Anse Creuse this week.



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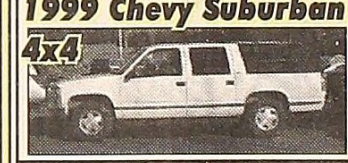
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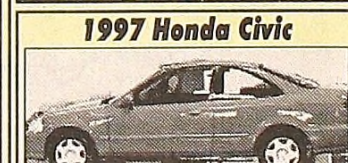
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